

CUMBERLAND SCHOOL COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 10, 2005

MINUTES

The regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, February 10, 2005 at the Administrative Office/Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, was called to order at 7:30 PM, by Chairman Paul Neves, with the following present:

Paul Neves, Chairman, Donald J. Costa, Vice Chair, Arthur DeCosta, Clerk,

Rosa Crowley, Linda Teel, Robert C. Thibodeau, Earl T. Wood

Also Present: Donna A. Morelle, Assistant Superintendent, Joseph A. Rotella, Esq., Director Legal Services/Employee Relations

Absent: Joseph M. Nasif, Superintendent

I. Pledge of Allegiance - Sixth grade students from Cumberland Hill, Matthew Sutcliffe and Michelle Malboeuf, led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Approval of Agenda - On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the agenda.

III. Chairperson's Report - The Chair read a letter from a High School senior, Colleen Neves, requesting reconsideration of moving this year's graduation ceremony due to Tucker Field construction. She is

requesting it be held on the High School grounds. The Chair noted this was his daughter and they will be meeting with Mr. Driscoll and the Superintendent.

IV. Comments from the Public - None.

V. Reports of Standing Committees

A. Personnel Committee - Mr. Thibodeau reported due to inadvertent posting, the committee had to reaffirm the January 27th vote on the advertising, time line and screening committee for the Superintendent Search.

1. Advertising Budget - On a motion by Mr. Thibodeau, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the advertising budget not to exceed \$10,000.

2. Time Line - Mr. Thibodeau explained the only change to the time line was the addition of a February 22 meeting of Rules & Regulations. On a motion by Mr. Thibodeau, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the time line for the Superintendent's Search.

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3. Screening Committee - Mr. Thibodeau reported the initial vote on

January 27th was to include the three personnel sub-committee members plus one member from the CTA, ICSE, three parents, one administrator named by the Superintendent, one member of the business community, one student named by the CHS principal, one Town Councilor, one member named by the Mayor. On a 2-1 vote the subcommittee was recommending deleting the student, Town Councilor and Mayor's representative; adding two members from the CTA and adding one more administrator. Mr. Thibodeau made a motion to approve the recommendation. Ms. Crowley provided a second. On a roll call vote, the motion FAILED 4-3, with the following voting AYE: Mr. Wood, Ms. Teel, Ms. Crowley; NAY: Mr. DaCosta, Mr. Thibodeau, Mr. Costa, Mr. Neves.

The Chair noted a committee would be established and opened the floor to motions. Ms. Teel made a motion to include two members of the CTA, one member of ICSE, three parents, one administrator, one student named by the CHS principal, one member named by the Mayor and one member of the business community, plus the three subcommittee members. Mr. Wood provided a second for discussion. On a roll call vote, it was VOTED 4-3 TO APPROVE the motion, with the following voting AYE: Mr. Costa, Mr. Wood, Ms. Teel, Mr. DaCosta; NAY: Mr. Thibodeau, Ms. Crowley, Mr. Neves.

3. Job Description - Mr. Thibodeau explained Mr. Rotella, Ms. Crowley and Ms. Teel had written the job description. He noted the only difference was the addition of the non-discrimination language at the end. Mr. Wood explained his objection to the Affirmative

Action Equal Opportunity Employer language being included in the job description. Mr. Neves noted his objection to number six under Human Resources. Mr. Thibodeau made a motion to approve the job description as presented. Mr. DaCosta provided a second. On a roll call vote, the motion FAILED 4-3, with the following voting AYE: Mr. Thibodeau, Ms. Crowley, Ms. Teel; NAY: Mr. Costa, Mr. Wood, Mr. DaCosta, Mr. Neves.

Mr. Wood made a motion to eliminate number six under Human Resources and the last paragraph of the job description. Mr. DaCosta provided a second. On a roll call vote, it was VOTED 5-2 TO APPROVE the job description, with the following voting AYE: Mr. Costa, Mr. Wood, Ms. Teel, Mr. DaCosta, Mr. Neves; NAY: Mr. Thibodeau, Ms. Crowley.

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Police Report

B. Approval of Minutes

- 1. Open Session: December 22, 2004; January 13, 2005**
- 2. Executive Session: December 16, 2004**

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C. Maintenance Report

D. Enrollments Report

E. Building Use Report

On a motion by Mr. Wood, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the Consent Agenda.

On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the December 16, 2004 Open Session minutes with the correction of Cumberland Middle School under principal searches (Old Business) and under number 17, Mr. Crowley to Ms. Crowley.

VII. Old Business

A. Building Committee Update - The Assistant Superintendent reported highlights of Mr. Steele's Executive Summary, noting the seats are in the auditorium. There are a number of issues with work proceeding. Mr. Neves questioned the problem of noise as he thought the contract called for working night hours. Mr. Wood reported the Building Committee met with the contractor and there will be another meeting on the 25th when training will begin on the auditorium lighting and sound systems.

B. Search Committee Update - Mr. Rotella noted they are waiting for a recommendation for a truant officer. Additional applications are being solicited for the Community School assistant principal. He will be advertising for a facilities director.

VIII. New Business

A. SALT Report: Cumberland Hill School/Featured School:

Cumberland Hill Robotics Project - Mr. Zenion introduced Mr. Thompson, teacher at Cumberland Hill. Mr. Thompson explained the RI First Lego League is difficult even for students who have robotics in their curriculum. He introduced students who displayed their plaque and winning robot. Mr. Zenion introduced Ms. Ballou, Teacher Assistant and member of the SALT team. They shared in summarizing the SALT visit, including plans for the future. It was noted they were invited to participate in a state wide SALT training.

B. 2005-2006 Budget - The Assistant Superintendent reported administration is doing a line item analysis of the budget. The next workshop will be February 16th. Mr. Thibodeau noted they are asking for a 13.94% increase, with fringe benefits at \$2,266,944 and a total request of 51 million dollars.

IX. Superintendent's Recommendations

A. Personnel Recommendations - The Assistant Superintendent presented the following:

1. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Ms. Crowley, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the resignation of Jerred Dean, Baseball Coach at Cumberland Middle School, effective February 3, 2005.

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2. On a motion by Mr. DaCosta, and a second by Mr. Wood, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the resignation of Tracy Kropp, .6 ESL Teacher at Cumberland High School, effective February 4, 2005.

3. On a motion by Ms. Crowley, and a second by Mr. Costa, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the resignation of Robert Lamoureux, Director of Building & Grounds at Cumberland School Department, effective February 10, 2005.

4. On a motion by Mr. Costa, and a second by Mr. DaCosta, it was UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO APPROVE the appointment of Joyce Bonner, Bookkeeper at Cumberland High School, effective January 25, 2005.

B. General Comments - The Assistant Superintendent reported she has spoken to Mr. Driscoll regarding graduation and he has met with student government members and may have a plan in place. Kindergarten registration will be held at our Lady of Fatima on March 8th, 10:00 am - 8:00 pm and March 9th, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

X. Comments from the Public - None.

XI. School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports) - Ms. Teel reported Spirit Week will be starting at Community School. Mr. Costa suggested the next School Committee meeting will be during school vacation week and should be held in the Transitional Building instead of at B.F. Norton.

**XII. Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion and/or Action
Items Referr5ed to in GLRI 42-45-5**

A. Personnel Mattrs - Exception (1)

1. CTA/ICSE

B. Negotiations/Litigation - Exception (2)

1. Pending Issues

No Executive Session was necessary

**XIII. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned by UNANIMOUS
CONSENT at 8:56 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Harris

Recording Secretary